

# *Saturday* **Mundo** **ntinel** Friday Afternoon

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## Carpenter

# Lawyer Seeks 5/22/81 Gag Ruling

The lawyer for David Joseph Carpenter Friday requested a gag order in the pending murder case against his client in an attempt to limit pre-trial information.

Carpenter and his lawyer, Public Defender Larry Biggam, were to appear in Santa Cruz Municipal Court at 1:30 p.m. today to formally ask for the ruling.

Municipal Court Judge Richard McAdams was to rule on the matter.

At presstime, the extent of the requested gag order was not known. In past trials, gag orders have forbidden lawyers, investigators and policemen involved in the case from disseminating any information regarding the defendant. One attempt to silence news reporters was later ruled unconstitutional.

The issuance of gag orders is an attempt by the court to prevent extensive pre-trial information about a defendant. A gag order marks an attempt to lessen the chance of damaging, prejudicial information from reaching prospective jurors.

Meanwhile, Carpenter, under investigation for a series of trailside killings in state parks in the Santa Cruz and San Francisco areas, is saying nothing to investigators about his possible connection to those crimes or a suspected link with two bank robbery suspects.

Four days before his May 15 arrest in connection with one of the eight brutal slayings, the FBI had tailed Carpenter to a San Francisco apartment rented by two bank robbery suspects.

Court documents filed in support of a search warrant for the apartment indicate that the FBI watched Carpenter carrying a suitcase and other belongings into the apartment on the night of May 11.

The apartment had been rented to Shane Williams and Karen Kilroy, who are sought on federal warrants for a March 12 bank robbery in Tempe, Ariz., the FBI said.

The 51-year-old Carpenter has been charged with one count of murder in the March 29 slaying of college student Ellen Hansen, 20, and the wounding of her boyfriend, Steve Haertle, also 20, on a backwoods trail in a Santa Cruz County state park.

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